

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 /135 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:LFISCHER:CAO

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:RMILLER

NSC:MPOWER

JCS:WLAFERTY

OSD/ISA:RBARTHOLOMEW

PM/DCA:VBAKER

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

ACDA/IR:THIRSCHFELD

C:VLEHOVICH

S/S: WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 108719

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR DATA: TACTICAL USE IN NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A. VIENNA 4219 B. STATE 93115

C. VIENNA 4500 D. NATO 2746

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

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1. US DELEGATION HAS IDENTIFIED FOUR ISSUES RELATING TO THE USE OF DATA IN NEGOTIATION IT BELIEVES APPROPRIATE FOR EARLY NATO DECISION (PARA E, REF A). THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON THOSE ISSUES FOR USE IN SPC AND, AFTER AGREEMENT REACHED THERE, IN AHG. GUIDANCE ON NUMERICAL DATA ITSELF IS BEING SENT SEPTEL.

2. WE BELIEVE ANY RELEASE OF A REVISED GROUND FORCES FIGURES TO THE EAST OR TO THE PRESS SHOULD SERVE A SPECIFIC

NEGOTIATING PURPOSE AND THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD PRESS EAST VIGOROUSLY FOR QUID PRO QUO FOR ANY NATO DATA TABLED. HOWEVER, IN PRINCIPLE WE AGREE THAT THE AHG SHOULD HAVE AUTHORITY FOR NEGOTIATING PURPOSES TO USE A REVISED GROUND FORCES FIGURE THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO US IN TERMS OF CATEGORIES INCLUDED. (FYI: ANY POLITICAL DECISIONS TO RECATEGORIZE GROUND FORCE FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS FOR PURPOSES OF EAST-WEST COMPARISONS IN NEGOTIATIONS OR TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER NUMBERS IN CALCULATING FORCE BALANCES IN RECKONING IMPACTS OF COMMON CEILINGS WOULD OF COURSE REQUIRE NATIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF THE TACTICAL USE OF DATA. END FYI) WE

AGREE WITH VIENNA (PARA 6, REF A) THAT NATO INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD GIVE TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY TO THE AHG IN INTRODUCING SUCH FIGURES IN NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO APPROVE THE SPECIFIC USE OF DATA BEFORE IT IS INITIALLY PRESENTED TO THE OTHER SIDE. AFTER SUCH INTRODUCTION, THE FIGURES COULD BE USED WITH THE PRESS, AS APPROPRIATE.

3. WE BELIEVE VIENNA'S PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE NATIONAL BREAKDOWNS BASED ON THE 777,000 FIGURE, FOLLOWED BY A NEW TOTAL AND NEW NATIONAL BREAKDOWNS, WOULD EXPOSE THE CHANGES TO CLOSE EASTERN SCRUTINY. IN PARTICULAR, THE MAJOR CHANGE WILL BE A NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN FRG GROUND STRENGTH. THIS SEEMS LIKELY TO EXACERBATE EASTERN OBJECTIONS TO OUR PHASING APPROACH AND POSSIBLY ELICIT CHANGES THAT THE FRG WAS BUILDING UP TO COMPENSATE FOR LATER REDUCTIONS. THEREFORE, WE CAN AGREE TO USE OF A COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BREAKDOWN IN RETURN FOR COMPARABLE
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PACT INFORMATION, BUT BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE BASED ON WHATEVER REVISED TOTAL IS AGREED, E.G. 791,000, NOT 777,000. THEREFORE INTRODUCTION OF COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BREAKDOWNS IN NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD IN ANY EVENT BE SUBSEQUENT TO INTRODUCTION OF THE REVISED TOTAL.

4. WE AGREE WITH VIENNA (PARA 8, REF A) THAT UNIT OR FUNCTIONAL NUMERICAL DATA SHOULD NOT BE USED AT THIS

TIME. (FYI: IT IS A SAFE ASSUMPTION, ALSO, THAT THE PACT
ALREADY HOLDS GOOD DETAILED DATA ON NATO NATIONAL FORCES.
THEIR MAIN PROBLEM MAY BE KEEPING UP WITH CHANGES. END
FYI)

5. WE ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE INFORMING THE EAST THAT
INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER WILL NOT AFFECT THE DISPARITY
BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. HOWEVER SINCE SUCH A STATEMENT
WOULD NOT BE RELATED TO A PROPOSED REDUCTION, BUT ONLY
TO REBUTTAL OF EASTERN ARGUMENTS, WE PLACE PARTICULAR
EMPHASIS ON AVOIDING NUMERICAL DETAIL THAT MIGHT CONVEY
TO THE EAST AN IMPRESSION OF A WESTERN DECISION TO NEGOTIATE ON AIR REDUCTIONS. FOR THIS REASON, WE OPPOSE
USE OF EITHER AGGREGATE OR COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY AIR MANPOWER
FIGURES AT THIS TIME AND WISH TO SPECIFICALLY APPROVE ANY
LATER USE OF SUCH FIGURES IN THE LIGHT OF THE TACTICAL
SITUATION.

6. USNATO SHOULD DRAW ON THIS GUIDANCE IN SPC DISCUSSIONS
OF USE OF DATA IN NEGOTIATIONS. AS NOTED ABOVE (PARA 2),
WE AGREE WITH VIENNA (PARA 6, REF A) THAT NATO
INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD GIVE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TO THE AHG
IN INTRODUCING SUCH FIGURES IN NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE USE
OF REVISED AGGREGATES AND COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY GROUND

FORCE MANPOWER TOTALS SHOULD BE TIED TO A SPECIFIC AND
SIGNIFICANT NEGOTIATING PURPOSE, WE BELIEVE THIS CAN BEST
BE JUDGED BY THE AHG, IN THE LIGHT OF THE TACTICAL
SITUATION AND UNDER NATIONAL INSTRUCTION. WE RECOGNIZE
ALLIED CONCERNS (REF D) MAY REQUIRE SOME SPC GUIDELINES
ON TACTICAL USE OF DATA. YOU SHOULD TRY TO MINIMIZE THE
SPECIFICITY AND RESTRICTIVENESS OF SUCH GUIDELINES. YOU
MAY WISH TO DRAW, AS APPROPRIATE, ON MATERIAL IN REF C,
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AS MODIFIED BY PARAS 3 AND 5, ABOVE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, CONSULTANTS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE108719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LFISCHER:CAO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740129-1044
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740522/aaaaatfx.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. VIENNA 4219 B. STATE 93115
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR DATA: TACTICAL USE IN NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: NATO BRUSSELS VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005